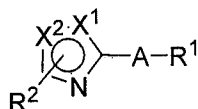


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented) A thiazole derivative represented by the formula



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein:

X¹ and X² are different from each other and represent a sulfur atom or a carbon atom;

R¹ represents a phenyl group;

a phenyl group substituted with 1 to 5 members selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, alkyl groups having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, alkoxy groups having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, a hydroxy group, phenylalkoxy groups having 7 to 12 carbon atoms, and alkylamino groups having 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

a phenyl group condensed with a 5 to 7 membered hetero aromatic or non-aromatic ring having at least one hetero atom selected from the group consisting of N, O, and S;

a pyridyl group;

a quinolyl group;

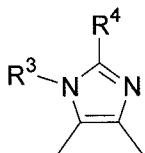
an isoquinolyl group; or

a pyridyl group condensed with a 5 to 7 membered hetero aromatic ring having at least one hetero atom selected from the group consisting of N, O, and S;

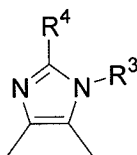
R² represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms, an alkoxy group

having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, an alkanoyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, or a hydroxyalkyl group having 1 to 5 carbon atoms; and

A represents a group which is represented by the formula



or



wherein:

R³ represents a hydrogen atom;

a hydroxy group;

an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

a phenylalkyl group having 7 to 12 carbon atoms; or

a phenylalkyl group having 7 to 12 carbon atoms, substituted with a hydroxy group, an alkoxy group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, an alkoxy group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms substituted with an alkoxy group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, or an alkoxy group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms substituted with an alkylamino group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms,

R⁴ represents a phenyl group;

a phenyl group substituted with 1 to 5 members selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, alkyl groups having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, alkoxy groups having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, a carbamoyl group, and a cyano group;

a hydrogen atom;

an alkyl group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms;

an alkenyl group having 2 to 12 carbon atoms;

a cycloalkyl group having 3 to 7 carbon atoms;

an alkyl group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms substituted with an alkoxy group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, a hydroxy group, an alkoxyphenylalkoxy group having 8 to 12 carbon atoms, a phthalimidoyl group, a toluenesulfonyloxy group, or a morpholino group;

an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms;

a cycloalkyl group having 3 to 9 carbon atoms substituted with an oxo group;

a tetrahydropyranyl group;

a 4-piperidinyl group;

a piperidinyl group substituted with an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms or a t-butoxycarbonyl group;

a cyclohexanespiro-2'-(1,3-dioxoranyl) group;

a pyrrolidin-2-one-5-yl group;

a group represented by the formula $-Y^1-Z^1-NR^5-Z^2-Y^2-R^6$,
wherein:
 Y^1 and Y^2 are the same or different from each other and represent a single bond or an alkylene group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms;

R^5 represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms;

Z^1 and Z^2 are the same or different from each other and represent a single bond;

an alkylene group having 1 to 7 carbon atoms;

-CO-;

-CO₂-;

-SO₂-; or

-OCO-, and

R⁶ represents

- a cycloalkyl group having 3 to 7 carbon atoms;
- an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms substituted with 1 to 3 halogen atoms;
- an alkenyl group having 2 to 6 carbon atoms;
- an alkynyl group having 2 to 6 carbon atoms;
- an amino group;
- an amino group substituted with 1 to 2 groups selected from the group consisting of an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, a cycloalkyl group having 3 to 7 carbon atoms, and a t-butoxycarbonyl group;
- a piperidino group;
- a piperidinyl group;
- a piperidinyl group substituted with an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms;
- a pyrrolidinyl group;
- a piperazinyl group;
- a piperazinyl group substituted with an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms;
- a morpholino group;
- a hydroxy group;
- an alkoxy group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms;
- an alkoxy group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms substituted by a hydroxy group or an alkoxy group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms;
- an oxetan-2-yl group;
- a tetrahydrofuranyl group;
- a tetrahydropyranyl group;
- a hydrogen atom;
- a phenyl group;
- a phenyl group substituted with an alkoxy group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms; or

a group that forms a ring when linked to the nitrogen atom of the above formula;

or

a group represented by the formula $-Y^3-CO-R^{41}$,

wherein:

Y^3 represents a single bond or an alkylene group having 1 to 7 carbon atoms,

R^{41} represents

a hydroxy group;

an alkoxy group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

a piperidino group;

a piperazin-1-yl group substituted by an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, a morpholinoalkyl group having 5 to 10 carbon atoms, or an alkylaminoalkyl group having 2 to 14 carbon atoms; or

a morpholino group.

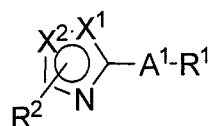
2. (previously presented) The thiazole derivative or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein R^2 is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms or an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms.

3. (previously presented) The thiazole derivative or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein R^2 is an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms or a trifluoromethyl group.

4. (previously presented) The thiazole derivative or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein R^2 is a methyl group or a trifluoromethyl group.

5. (previously presented) The thiazole derivative or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein R^1 is a phenyl group condensed with a 5 to 7 membered hetero aromatic or non-aromatic ring containing at least one hetero atom selected from the group consisting of N, O, and S.

6. (previously presented) The thiazole derivative or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein X^1 is a sulfur atom and X^2 is a carbon atom.
7. (withdrawn) An ALK5 inhibitor having, as an active ingredient, the thiazole derivative or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1.
8. (withdrawn) The ALK5 inhibitor according to claim 7, which is a therapeutic agent for glomerulonephritis, diabetic nephropathy, hepatic fibrosis, liver cirrhosis, pulmonary fibrosis, proliferative vitreoretinopathy, or alopeciarosis, or a hair growth agent.
9. (withdrawn) The ALK5 inhibitor according to claim 7 or 8, which is an external medicine.
10. (withdrawn) A hair follicle proliferation stimulant, having an ALK5 inhibitor as an active constituent.
11. (withdrawn) A hair growth stimulant or a hair growth agent, having an ALK5 inhibitor as an active ingredient.
12. (withdrawn) A thiazole derivative represented by the formula



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein:

X^1 and X^2 are different from each other and represent a sulfur atom or a carbon atom;

R^1 represents a phenyl group;

a phenyl group substituted by 1 to 5 members selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, alkyl groups having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, alkoxy groups having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, a hydroxy group, phenylalkoxy groups having 7 to 12 carbon atoms, and alkylamino groups having 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

a phenyl group condensed with a 5 to 7 membered hetero aromatic or non-

aromatic ring having at least one hetero atom selected from the group consisting of N, O, and S;

a pyridyl group;

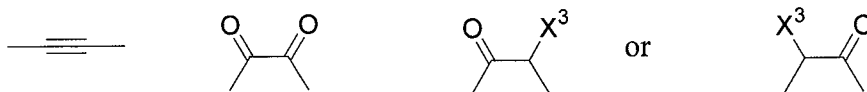
a quinolyl group;

an isoquinolyl group; or

a pyridyl group condensed with a 5 to 7 membered hetero aromatic ring having at least one hetero atom selected from the group consisting of N, O, and S;

R² represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms, an alkoxy group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, an alkanoyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, or a hydroxyalkyl group having 1 to 5 carbon atoms; and

A¹ represents a group which is represented by the formula



wherein X³ represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, or an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms.

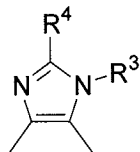
13. (currently amended) The thiazole derivative or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein X¹ is a sulfur atom and X² is a carbon atom;

R¹ is a phenyl group condensed with a 5 to 7 membered ~~hetero~~hetero aromatic or non-aromatic ring having at least one ~~hetero~~hetero atom selected from the group consisting of N, O, and S benzothiazolyl, benzoxazolyl, and benzo(1,3)dioxolyl,

R² is a methyl group;

and A represents a group which is represented by the formula

A:



wherein R³ is a hydrogen atom and

R⁴ is represented by the formula:

-Y¹-Z¹-NR⁵-Z²-Y²-R⁶, wherein -Y¹-Z¹ is -CH₂-; R⁵ is a hydrogen atom; Z² is -CO₂-; Y² is 2-methylpropan-1,3-diyl, and R⁶ is a hydrogen atom.

14. (new) The thiazole derivative or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein X¹ is a sulfur atom and X² is a carbon atom;

R¹ is a phenyl group condensed with a 5 to 7 membered hetero aromatic or non-aromatic ring having at least one hetero atom selected from the group consisting of benzothiazolyl, benzoxazolyl, and benzo(1,3)dioxolyl.